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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

60975 7590 06/02/2008

CAMPBELL STEPHENSON LLP  
11401 CENTURY OAKS TERRACE  
BLDG. H, SUITE 250  
AUSTIN, TX 78758

EXAMINER

VO, HUYEN X

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/039,118

01/04/2002

Shannon Jones

OIC0041US

1044

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD FOR ACCESSING DATA VIA VOICE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	09/02/2008

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.**

**THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.**

### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

#### I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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60975 7590 06/02/2008

**CAMPBELL STEPHENSON LLP  
11401 CENTURY OAKS TERRACE  
BLDG. H, SUITE 250  
AUSTIN, TX 78758**

## **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/039,118	01/04/2002	Shannon Jones	OIC0041US	1044

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD FOR ACCESSING DATA VIA VOICE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	09/02/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
VO, HUYEN X	2626	704-257000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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10/039,118	01/04/2002	Shannon Jones	OIC0041US	1044
60975	7590	06/02/2008	EXAMINER	
CAMPBELL STEPHENSON LLP 11401 CENTURY OAKS TERRACE BLDG. H, SUITE 250 AUSTIN, TX 78758			VO, HUYEN X	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2626	
DATE MAILED: 06/02/2008				

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 553 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 553 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/039,118

Examiner

HUYEN X. VO

Applicant(s)

JONES ET AL.

Art Unit

2626

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/17/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27,35-38,40 and 42.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Cyrus Bharucha on 5/23/2008. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 10, delete "current" in line 4.

In claim 12, insert "the" before "feedback" in line 1.

In claim 13, delete "current" in line 4.

In claim 18, delete "the method" in line 3.

In claim 23, replace article "a" in line 4 with article "the".

In claim 42, replace article "a" in line 2 with "an".

In claim 9, amend as follows:

Delete "corresponding to data retrieved from the enterprise data system in a verbal format" in line 2.

Insert article "the" before "providing" in line 1.

Insert article "the" after "providing" in line 1.

In claim 17, amend as follows:

Delete “processing the data request to” in line 3.

Replace “identify” in line 3 with – identifying –.

Insert after the word “query” in line 4 with – , by processing the data request –.

In claim 26, amend as follows:

Insert “,” after the second word “query” in line 2.

Replace “in” in line 3 with “accessing,”.

**Claims 1, 15, 21, 38, and 40 have been amended as follows:**

1. A method for accessing data from an enterprise data system via voice input, comprising:

authenticating a login, wherein the authenticating comprises:

querying a database with a voice identifier,

in response to the querying, verifying the voice identifier and receiving a password for the enterprise data system from the database, and

establishing a connection with the enterprise data system using the password for the enterprise data system;

enabling access to a domain of the enterprise data system, wherein each of a plurality of domains of the enterprise data system corresponds to a respective object or type of data;

determining a navigation context;

receiving a navigation command;

- updating the navigation context in response to the navigation command;
- providing a system prompt based on the navigation context;
- receiving a spoken language query corresponding to the navigation context;
- converting the spoken language query into a data query and executing the data query to retrieve data that corresponds to the data query in the accessed domain; and
- providing feedback data in a verbal format, wherein the feedback data corresponds to data retrieved from the accessed domain and is based, at least in part, on the navigation context, and the providing the feedback data comprises:
  - generating audio data by performing a text-to-speech conversion on retrieved data; and
  - generating a verbalized system response by interspersing the audio data with waveform data of prompts.

15. A method for accessing an enterprise data system via a voice communications device, comprising:

- enabling a communications connection to a voice access system;
- authenticating a login through the communications connection using a user identifier, wherein the authenticating comprises:
  - querying a database with the user identifier, and
  - in response to the querying, verifying the user identifier and receiving from the database an enterprise data system log-in data comprising a password for the enterprise data system;
- automatically logging into the enterprise data system using the enterprise data system log-in data;

enabling access to a domain of the enterprise system after the logging into the enterprise data system, each of a plurality of domains corresponding to a respective object or type of data;

determining a navigation context;

receiving a navigation command;

updating the navigation context in response to the navigation command;

providing a system prompt based on the navigation context;

enabling a request that a query be performed using a spoken language query corresponding to the navigation context;

converting the spoken language query into a data query and executing the data query to retrieve data that corresponds to the data query in the accessed domain;

providing feedback data in a verbal format via the communications connection, wherein the feedback data corresponds to data retrieved from the accessed domain and is based, at least in part, on the navigation context, and the providing the feedback data comprises:

generating audio data by performing a text-to-speech conversion on retrieved data; and

generating a verbalized system response by interspersing the audio data with waveform data of prompts.

21. A method for accessing an enterprise data system via a telephone, comprising:

enabling a telephone connection to a voice access system;

authenticating the telephone connection using a user identifier, wherein the authenticating comprises:

querying a database with the user identifier, and



in response to the querying, verifying the user identifier and receiving from the database an enterprise data system log-in data comprising a password for the enterprise data system;

automatically logging into the enterprise data system using the enterprise data system log-in data;

providing a voice user interface that enables:

access to a plurality of domains, and

navigation and querying of data from an accessed domain using spoken navigation and spoken query commands, wherein each of a plurality of domains comprises data corresponding to a respective type of object in the enterprise data system;

determining a navigation context;

receiving a navigation command;

updating the navigation context in response to the navigation command;

providing a system prompt based on the navigation context;

determining a currently accessed domain among the plurality of domains; and

providing feedback data in a verbal format via the telephone connection in response to spoken navigation and spoken query commands, wherein the feedback data is based, at least in part, on the currently accessed domain, and the providing the feedback data comprises:

generating audio data by performing a text-to-speech conversion on retrieved data; and

generating a verbalized system response by interspersing the audio data with waveform data of prompts.

38. A system comprising:

an authentication circuit coupled to a database and configured to authenticate a login by:

querying the database with a voice identifier, and

in response to the querying, verifying the voice identifier and receiving a password for an enterprise data system from the database;

a connection circuit configured to establish a connection with the enterprise data system using the password for the enterprise data system;

an interface configured to access a domain of the enterprise data system, wherein each of a plurality of domains of the enterprise data system corresponds to a respective object or type of data;

a context circuit for determining a navigation context, receiving a navigation command, updating the navigation context in response to the navigation command, and providing a system prompt based on the navigation context;

a query circuit configured to receive a spoken language query corresponding to the navigation context;

a retrieval circuit configured to convert the spoken language query into a data query and execute the data query to retrieve data that corresponds to the data query in the accessed domain; and

a responder circuit configured to provide data corresponding to the retrieved data in a verbal format by:

generating audio data by performing a text-to-speech conversion on retrieved data; and

generating a verbalized system response by interspersing the audio data with waveform data of prompts.

40. A computer readable medium comprising instructions executable on a processor, wherein the instructions are operable to implement each of:

- authenticating a login, wherein the authenticating comprises:

  - querying a database with a voice identifier;

  - in response to the querying, verifying the voice identifier and receiving a password for an enterprise data system from the database; and

  - establishing a connection with the enterprise data system using the password for the enterprise data system;

- enabling access to a domain of the enterprise data system, wherein each of a plurality of domains of the enterprise data system corresponds to a respective object or type of data;

- determining a navigation context;

- receiving a navigation command;

- updating the navigation context in response to the navigation command;

- providing a system prompt based on the navigation context;

- receiving a spoken language query corresponding to the navigation context;

- converting the spoken language query into a data query and executing the data query to retrieve data that corresponds to the data query in the accessed domain; and

- providing feedback data in a verbal format, wherein the providing the feedback data corresponds to data retrieved from the accessed domain and comprises:

  - generating audio data by performing a text-to-speech conversion on retrieved data; and

  - generating a verbalized system response by interspersing the audio data with waveform data of prompts.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-27, 35-38, 40, and 42 are allowed over prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Bennett et al. (US 6633846) disclose a method, system, and computer-readable medium for accessing data from an enterprise data system via user voice input: enabling access to a domain of the enterprise data system, wherein each of a plurality of domains of the enterprise data system corresponds to a respective object or type of data (*the operation of figure 1, book and music are two different domains in col. 35, lines 24-26*); receiving a spoken language query to be performed against data stored in the accessed domain (*the operation of figure 1, speech input from client side*); converting the spoken language query into a data query and executing the data query to retrieve data that corresponds to the query in the accessed domain (*elements 182-184 in figure 1 and/or col. 24, line 56 to col. 25, line 12*); and providing feedback data corresponding to data retrieved from the accessed domain in a verbal format, wherein the providing the feedback data comprises: performing a text-to-speech conversion on retrieved data to generate audio data (*col. 25, line 62 to col. 26, line 3 and figure 11C*); and interspersing prompt and retrieved data (*col. 38, lines 5-10*). Loveland (US 7054819) teaches authenticating a login, wherein the authenticating comprises: querying a database with a voice identifier, in response to the querying, verifying the voice identifier and receiving a password for the enterprise data system from the database, and establishing a connection with the enterprise data system using the password for the enterprise data system (*the operation*

*of figure 8 or referring to col. 19, line 55 to col. 20, line 58, user's voice is authenticated by the voice print application 200; the voice print application then retrieves identification/password stored field 536 from the voice authentication database 530 to log the user into the data system).* Denenberg et al. (US 6724864) teach the step of interspersing the audio data with waveform data of prompts to generate a verbalized system response (*see abstract section*). Bennett et al., Loveland, and Denenberg et al. fail to specifically disclose the steps of determining a navigation context; receiving a navigation command; updating the navigation context in response to the navigation command; providing a system prompt based on the navigation context; receiving a spoken language query corresponding to the navigation context. Furthermore, it would have not been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Bennett et al., Loveland, and Denenberg et al. in order to obtain the claimed invention. Therefore, claims 1-27, 35-38, 40, and 42 are allowed over prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUYEN X. VO whose telephone number is (571)272-7631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Huyen X Vo/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2626

5/24/2008

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